

11th August 1965]

(அ) சேலம் மாவட்டத்தில் உள்ள பஞ்சாயத்துக்கள் 582 பழத் தோட்டங்களை வளர்த்து வருகின்றன.

(இ) அவற்றிற்காக ரூ. 6,60,066.64 செலவிடப்பட்டது. அவற்றின் மூலம் இதுவரை கிடைத்த வருவாய் ரூ. 2,123.96 ஆகும்.

*Irrecoverable fertilisers, seeds and manure advances.*

15 Q.—SRI M. V. KARIVENGADAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state the details of advances sanctioned to the agriculturists for the purchase of fertilisers, seeds and manures, found irrecoverable, districtwise ?

A.—There are no cases of advances sanctioned to the agriculturists for the purchase of fertilisers during the last five years found irrecoverable.

Loans for the purchase of seeds and manures are sanctioned by the Block staff in non-full finance areas under the L. I. L. and A.L. Act and separate particulars are not available. Loans in full finance areas are granted by the co-operatives for all agricultural purposes and no separate particulars for seeds and manures are available.

[Note.—An asterisk (\*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—CALLING ATTENTION TO THE HARDSHIPS EXPERIENCED BY THE AGRICULTURISTS IN THANJAVUR DISTRICT.

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members Sri M. D. Thiagaraja Pillai and Sri R. Thangavelu may now call the attention of the Hon. Minister for Food.

திரு. எம். டி. தியாகராஜ பிள்ளை : கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, தஞ்சாவூர் மாவட்டத்தில் பாசனத்திற்குப் போதிய தண்ணீர் கிடைக்காமல் குறுவை, சம்பா நாற்றுக்கள் உலர்ந்து போனதன் விளைவாக அம்மாவட்டத்திலுள்ள உழவர்கள் கடஷ்ப்படுவதைக் குறித்து அவசரப் பொதுமுக்கியத்துவம் வாய்ந்த விஷயத்தை கனம் அமைச்சர் அவர்களுடைய கவனத்திற்குக் கொண்டுவர விரும்புகிறேன்.

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : During the last three decades, the South-West Monsoon has been observed to be active in the catchment area of the Cauvery in the last week of June or in the first week of July. On this consideration, the normal date of opening the Mettur Reservoir has been the 12th June in previous years, provided the storage and level on that date are 20,000 M.Cft. and 53.38 feet.

The Reservoir was opened for Cauvery delta irrigation this year on this date, viz., the 12th June, when the level and storage were 55.06 feet and 21,151 M. Cft. respectively. Unfortunately

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the South-West Monsoon set in this year much later than it did in the past and even when it did, it was not intense, and the rainfall was sporadic up to 14th July. The accumulated deficit in rainfall this year from 1st June 1965 is 528 m.m. Consequently, the inflows into the reservoir from 9th to 17th July were inadequate, and it steadily decreased from 6,921 cusecs on the 9th July to 71 on the 15th and again to 741 on the 17th. The delta demand was 20,000 to 28,000 cusecs. Yet, maximum supply possible was let down from the Reservoir based on the natural expectations on the onset of the monsoon and freshes at the time. In order to give command to the branch channels, turn system was introduced on 3-7-1965 which considerably helped to meet the situation. The subsequent increased rains at Mercara between 15th and 21st July resulted in inflows of the order of 40,000 cusecs for a few days into the Mettur Reservoir. This Government also requested the Government of Mysore and that Government kindly helped with additional supplies from Krishnarajasagara over the flows due to tide over the critical position in the Thanjavur Delta. The supply position in the rivers Cauvery, Vennar and Grand Anicut Canal improved considerably from 21st July 1965 and adequate supplies are now being allowed to all the areas. The water level at the reservoir was 55.14 feet on 3-8-1965 and on 10-8-1965 is 54.58. The information available with the Government is that Kuruvai seedlings have not been damaged. Cases of seedlings growing overaged (i.e., more than 21 days in the seed beds) have been reported, but cases of complete abandonment of seedlings have not been brought to notice. The work of the Irrigation Department in distributing the available water was rendered difficult in some cases by unauthorised cutting open of the canal bunds to draw more water and irregularly. This also might have affected the cultivation operations in parts of the tail and the delta. The canal banks and regulators were guarded and patrolled and available supplies were regulated judiciously and equitably counting on the full co-operation of the ryots.

The necessity for filter Points, boring pumps and oil engine pumpsets in the delta areas has already been appreciated, and the Government have already sanctioned a special Crash Programme for sinking filter point tube wells in Thanjavur district to help raise seedlings much ahead of the release of Mettur waters and help early transplantation of Kuruvai. Over 700 filter points have already been sunk this year. A scheme for the supply of electrical energy to the tube wells under the filter point scheme has also been framed at a cost of Rs. 27.5 lakhs and will be implemented shortly. The New Wells Subsidy Scheme is already being implemented in the Thanjavur district and loans for the purchase and supply of oil engines and electrically operated pumpsets are also being sanctioned under the Takkavi Loan Rules for lifting water from the wells for irrigation purposes.